



2014
year in review

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ARMY
WEEKLY

A warrior of the 45th STB, 8th MP, scans for hostiles from his team's prepared fighting positions during the battalion's Warrior Week competition.

18th Trans. takes first at Warrior Week competition

Story and photo by
STAFF SGT. TARESHA HILL
8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs
8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Troops from the 45th Special Troops Battalion, 8th Military Police Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, dedicated hours and hours to extra training and team-building activities during the months before the unit's intense Warrior Week competition.

The four-day competition, held here, earlier this month, was designed to make the over 60 troops of young officers and Soldiers work cohesively in small teams, relying on each others' skills and knowledge to work through the competitive events.

Despite its title, "It's not about winning," said 1st Sgt. Jason Gouty, the 18th Transportation Detachment's first sergeant. "If you came out here to win, you've already lost."

Gouty emphasized that it was all about leadership and teamwork. "These young officers and NCOs (noncommissioned officers) need to know how to motivate their Soldiers, and this competition helps them do that," said Gouty.

The week kicked-off with a timed Iron Man event, in which the teams had to run four miles with their weapons while carrying a litter and five full five-gallon water jugs. At the end of the four miles, team members competed in a stress-shoot style M16 range.

To introduce the young troops to a different aspect of moving to a battlefield, the teams flew in UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from Wheeler Army Airfield to East Range where they rucked the rocky and muddy terrain, with all of their gear, to base camp.

Unlike the battalion's previous Warrior Week competition, where Soldiers returned home at the end of the day to their nice warm and comfy beds, teams stayed in the field for the duration of this year's event.

"We wanted to add stressors to the competition," said Lt. Col. Donald Fagnan, the battalion's commander. "This forces them to think things through when under stressful conditions."

After a few hours of sleep, Soldiers

started day two hours ahead of the sun. Each team dug fighting positions that were graded, and then the troops immediately took on the obstacle course together.

"Some of these obstacles will test you," said Command Sgt. Major Mark Morgan, the battalion's senior enlisted adviser. "This is about facing your fears and finishing as a team."

Day two ended with a foot march back to base camp, and on day three, Soldiers ramped up before sunrise with a timed two-hour land navigation test, followed by a timed three-hour day land navigation test, and wrapped up with a board testing the troops' knowledge under pressure.

To round out the intense week, the troops met their final event first thing

on day four: An Army Physical Fitness Test with a team emphasis. As each Soldier finished the run, they went back for their teammates, motivating them.

After all of that, "Team Sliders" from 18th Transportation Detachment was announced as the top team.

"We definitely weren't expecting to win," said 2nd Lt. Stephen Haley, the Sliders' team leader. "We were all in the suck together and just went out there to give it our best."

Shocked over winning, Spc. Charles Micalizzi, said that competing in Warrior Week definitely helped him with leadership and building camaraderie.

He said, "It was difficult, but everyone pushed so hard and gave everything they had."



Courtesy photo by 545th Transportation Company

Troops from the 545th Harbormaster Det., 545th Trans. Co., deploy to the port of Kawaihae on Hawaii's Big Island, where they set up their HCCC for a field training exercise, Dec. 1.

545th deploys harbormasters

8TH THEATER SUSTAINMENT COMMAND
Public Affairs

KAWAIHAE PORT, Hawaii — The many ports, beachheads and other water terminals throughout the massive, island-filled Pacific region are busy places.

But "busy" doesn't do justice to the traffic during natural disasters or other contingency operation situations.

When watercraft are quickly moving in and out delivering cargo, managing that traffic is a critical part of safety and mission success.

That's precisely the mission of the 545th Harbormaster Detachment that's prepared to rapidly deploy from its home station at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to ports, both improved and unimproved, and other water terminals throughout the region, to provide command and control for approaching vessels as they off-load material and supplies.

It's a mission that demands a high-level of readiness and synchronization that the unit achieves through joint and interagency field training exercises, like the one it led, Dec. 1-8, here, on Hawaii's Big Island.

The Harbormaster Detachment is part of the 545th Transportation Company, which also contains other transportation detachments with watercraft operators who crew the 8th Theater Sustainment Command's logistic support vessels.

"As a proof of principle, the Harbormaster Detachment deployed to the port, set up the Harbormaster Command and Control Center (HCCC), and conducted harbormaster command and

control as U.S. Army Vessel Lt. Gen. William B. Bunker (Logistic Support Vessel 4, or LSV-4) conducted surface transportation missions for the Department of Public Works, 24th Marine Air Group, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, and BAE," said Capt. Christopher Vesce, the 545th Trans. Co.'s commander. "With the HCCC's guidance, the vessel was able to safely transport 120 pieces of cargo totaling over 40,000 square feet of cargo space."

The HCCC is a deployable and tactically mobile system that provides Army logisticians the sensors and knowledge management tools to establish and maintain situational awareness and command and control of any harbor and/or littoral environment, said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Clint Smith, the detachment commander.

Vesce said, "This was a great event for both the LSV-4 and Harbormaster troops. Seeing both elements working together in a field environment served as a great experience and will help pave the way for watercraft training in Hawaii for years to come."

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Mike Lloyd, the vessel's skipper, agreed, and said, "The Harbormaster Det. did an outstanding job tracking and communicating with us throughout the duration of the operation, definitely adding value to the companies' readiness and overall mission posture."

The HCCC and LSV-4 also participated in the world's largest international exercise, Rim of the Pacific 2014, earlier this year, playing major roles in surface/vertical lift, casualty evacuation, and Logistics over the Shore operations.

2nd SBCT loads, flies, validates

Story and photo by
STAFF SGT. CARLOS DAVIS
2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM — Soldiers from Company A, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Inf. Division, and Airmen from the 535th Airlift Squadron, 15th Wing, conducted a load out and fly away validation exercise, Dec. 10, here, using two M1126 Strykers and a C-17 aircraft as part of the 25th ID Contingency Response Force mission.

The CRF mission is designed to rapidly deploy Soldiers within the Asia-Pacific's area of responsibility to provide humanitarian assistance and/or combat operations.

"By conducting this type of training, it demonstrates that we are mission-capable and mission-ready to deploy if needed," said 1st Lt. Kyle Goodroe, originally from Michigan, a platoon leader assigned to Co. A.

The two services worked together to enhance the interoperability of the units to provide proper airlift capabilities.

"This type of training benefits both branches of service," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Fullmer, from Seattle, an evaluator loadmaster assigned to 535th Airlift Squadron, 15th Wing. "In our particular unit, we typically don't get a lot of experience or exposure

to diverse vehicles, such as the Strykers. It provides a great opportunity for our young Airmen to come out here and learn the different procedures that go along with this type of training that they normally would not be able to see. For the Army, it allows them to be able to see and work in different training environments with different personnel that will overall prepare them for future airlift operations."

The training allows the units to gauge their crews as a team and hone their deployable readiness in order to be able to accomplish the mission safely and effectively.

For Pvt. Dillen Filley, from St. Louis, an infantryman assigned to Company A, conducting this training safely and effectively is the only thing on his mind.

"My leaders told me to watch out for passing troops and don't hit any of the aircrafts," he said.

Building a foundation in a real-world environment, this training provides the units a better understanding of what all is required if they are needed to deploy without notice.

"This is the first time we are loading Strykers on C-17 aircraft as a unit in a long time," said Goodroe. "By conducting this type of training, it demonstrates that we are mission-capable and ready to deploy if needed and, not only that, but also provides a great arsenal in our weaponry."



Co. A, 1-21st Inf. Regt., 2nd SBCT, and Airmen from the 535th Airlift Squadron, 15th Wing, conduct a load out and fly away validation exercise using two Strykers and a C-17 as part of the 25th ID CRF mission. CRF is designed to rapidly deploy Soldiers within the Pacific to provide humanitarian assistance and or combat operations.



HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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SC challenges all to be safe during holidays

MAJ. GEN. CHARLES A. FLYNN
Commander, 25th Infantry Division, and Commander, U.S. Army-Hawaii

Just as in years past, members our Army family will gather with loved ones this holiday season to honor traditions, reflect on the challenges and successes of 2014 and look with hope to 2015.

As we come together with family and friends, Americans will gather with their heads bowed at their family tables to celebrate the blessings of the past year and look with hope to those years still to come.

As you travel, I ask that each

member of the United States Army-Hawaii Team takes precautions and include safety into all of your holiday planning and events.

Additionally, stay alert to the typical hazards, during the holidays, such as weather (if you are traveling to the mainland or lower 48), privately owned vehicle/motorcycle accidents, criminal activity, alcohol consumption



Flynn

and sexual assault.

Each of you plays an important part in our success, and we need you to celebrate the holidays with safety in mind. We must take every precaution necessary, on both an individual and group level, to avoid any tragedies during this holiday season.

I challenge all leaders, Soldiers, civilians and family members to take an “active” approach to protection during the holiday season. The simple act of looking out for one another is the key to ensuring a joyous holiday celebration for all.

When you celebrate with family and

friends, remember to celebrate responsibly. We all have an obligation to stay safe, whether on duty or off, and it’s especially important we remind each other of this responsibility during our time off.

The biggest blessing our Army will count this holiday season is you — every Soldier, family member and civilian who makes up this amazing team.

I wish you and yours a happy, blessed and safe holiday season.

Thank you for your service and dedication to our Army, our nation and the United States Army-Hawaii mission.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season.

FIRST STEPS in FAITH

Using Wolverine’s example, try to live like a superhero

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) JOHN GRAUER
Plans and Operations Chaplain
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

I love the holidays with family, friends, food, a great movie and hope — hope that everything will work out, like my finances, my relationships and my job.

When I was a 6-year-old kid, I thought it would be cool to be a superhero. Who wouldn’t want to have incredible pow-

ers, travel at the speed of light, fly into space, have incredible strength and be immortal.

But reality set in, and I soon realized all these powers were make believe.

Yet, there is something compelling about any superhero. They strive to make a positive impact in their world, and they give hope to humanity.

Wolverine is not much different than any other superhero we’ve seen. It fea-

tures a hero, villains and a complex story, but what sets him apart is that he is not perfect. It is a tale of an imperfect hero, just like us, who tries to do the right thing despite the many challenges he faces.

Wolverine’s life provides us with the opportunity to reflect on our own journey as we strive to live heroic lives in the real world and gives hope to those around us.

The most famous adventures are about people called to overcome obstacles they face in everyday life. Wolverine, as a heroic figure, is a story about conflict. In the movie “The Wolverine,” which is set in Japan, we find him in the midst of a family feud. For all the attributes and super powers that Wolverine brings with him, it is his ability to self-heal that is most coveted by the family’s dying leader.



Grauer

Rather than being content with the lifespan given to him and passing on his legacy and hope to the next generation, this dying man by the name of Yashida (the enemy of Wolverine) clings foolishly to life and threatens to take anyone else’s life to ensure that he stays alive. He places his dreams in the wrong thing! He wants immortality, and he’ll sacrifice everything, including his name, to get it. In retrospect, he has no hope in the future.

Wolverine, on the other hand, has been burdened with the heartache of what it means to live forever, and he wants escape. His healing ability doesn’t extend to his heart, and it won’t ever stop hurting. Everyone he loves, dies. He is visited in his dreams by past hurts; yet, Wolverine sees beyond the pain and welcomes what is to come.

But too often, we’re too much like Yashida — terrified of the future and willing to do anything to avoid it, because we have no hope. Perhaps, we should be more like Wolverine — willing to face our fears and move forward, no matter what the cost.

Hope is looking at humanity and the challenges of life, and realizing that there is a better future when we face our battles. Hope can move the world when we realize this holiday season that God has planned something great for each of us and maybe, just maybe, we might do something great to live like a superhero. That is the tension of life. It’s what a heroic person does.

Living well serves a great purpose. It gets results by making a difference in the lives of people around us and gives hope that everything will work out.



Image of Wolverine generously provided to the “Hawaii Army Weekly” by Marvel Worldwide, Inc.

The character Wolverine, one of Marvel’s “X-Men,” can help us to reflect on our own journey through life.

Nicotine is addictive, whether e-cig or not

J.M. MILLER
Army Substance Abuse Program-Hawaii, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

Everybody thinks that illegal drugs are addictive, and they’re correct. However, most people forget that the second most addictive drug is legal.

There has been a war on tobacco for years; people are becoming more aware of the hazards of smoking.

Now there is a new item to consider. Electronic cigarettes, also known as “e-cigs,” or “vapors.” The cigarette vaporizes liquid nicotine and flavoring, producing a vapor that is inhaled by the user, and it gives off the appearance of

smoking. The vapor that is inhaled is primarily vaporized nicotine and artificial flavoring. The nicotine level (ranging from 0 mg to 36 mg) and flavor differ based on the user’s choice.

Many manufacturers offer e-liquids with decreasing levels of nicotine and promote that these devices can be used to help someone quit smoking. No studies have been conducted to demonstrate the safety or effectiveness of these products as tobacco cessation aids, and they aren’t approved by the FDA for tobacco cessation.

There are no health warnings on these products like those seen on convention-

al cigarette packages, and they have become very popular within the military community and our children.

Many of the e-liquid flavors even sound like candy, targeting our keiki.

Everyone also needs to be aware that these devices could be used to deliver substances other than nicotine (hemp oil or liquid THC) and could pose a serious health threat.

Use of the e-cigs and vapors are restricted, just like smoking regular cigarettes, which is governed by Army Regulation 600-63, Army Health Promotion, Chapter 7, Environmental Health. This policy applies to all mili-

tary and civilian personnel, including appropriated and non-appropriated fund employees, as well as family members, visitors, volunteers or contractors working on, or visiting, garrison installations.

Stop smoking. Prevent substance abuse. Take A STAND!

(Editor’s note: Miller is the prevention coordinator at ASAP, part of the Directorate of Human Resources, USAG-HI.)



Voices of Ohana

What do you want to accomplish by the end of the year?

Photos by 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs



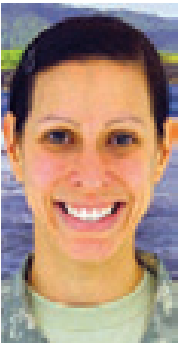
“Our goal, as a SHARP office, is to have 100 percent personnel here trained at TAMC for SHARP first responder.”

Sgt. 1st Class Joel Colon
Victim advocate, TAMC



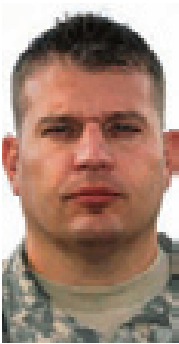
“I hope to accomplish everything on my dry erase board and have all my tasks completed by the end of 2014.”

Sgt. 1st Class Qwanina Justice
DOHET Operations, TAMC



“To become a registered respiratory therapist.”

Sgt. Carmen Martinezperez
Sleep disorder specialist, TAMC



“My American Registry of Radiologic Technologist certificate close to completion and stand up and ride a wave.”

Sgt. Jason Riddle
Executive assistant/driver, TAMC



“To get my family into more healthy physical activities so that we can start to focus on our well-being.”

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Singh
Sterling Process Department, TAMC

USARPAC boosts training innovation



STAFF SGT. KYLE J. RICHARDSON
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — As 2014 closes, U.S. Army-Pacific is taking planning and executing operations to new levels by building upon allied and partner nation relationships throughout the Indo-Asia Pacific region.

USARPAC continues to strengthen and broaden U.S. Army relationships through a series of engagements with the introduction of the new Pacific Pathways training innovation.

“Pacific Pathways is a new model of operational deployments,” said Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander, USARPAC. “It builds on our experiences of deploying into other areas of the world while applying this deployment construct prior to a crisis emerging. Pacific Pathways stimulates our planning and operations skills, and opens opportunities for significant whole of government and multinational relationship enhancements that must be the foundation of (U.S. Pacific Command’s) work in this critical Indo-Asia Pacific region.”



Chief Warrant Officer 3 Christian Muir, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade

An Apache with the 1st Attack Helicopter Bn., 25th CAB, 25th ID, leads an Indonesian army MI-35 at Ahmad Yani Army Aviation Base, Semarang, Indonesia, Sept. 9, during Garuda Shield 14, a USARPAC-Indonesian exercise.

Pacific Pathways meets allied and partner nation requests for increased engagements and focused training.

“Pathways demonstrates the U.S. military’s presence and commitment to the region,” Brooks said.

USARPAC engages in more than 130 events throughout the Pacific, annually. Pacific Pathways employs a task force using a series of consecutive bilateral and multilateral exercises and engagements with foreign militaries.

Army officials say the concept provides greater mission and fiscal predictability for U.S. Army forces and develops adaptive leaders and Soldiers for complex missions.

“The units have to think through the planning for a deployment and then execute it,” said Maj. Gen. Charles Flynn, commander, 25th Infantry



Sgt. 1st Class Adora Gonzalez, 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

U.S. and Malaysian soldiers react to a small-arms fire in a simulated ambush during counter-IED training at KDP, Malaysia, Sept. 20. The interoperability between forces enables strong partnerships and a continuing commitment toward peacekeeping missions in Asia Pacific.



Sgt. Brooks Fletcher, 16th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jake Uber, 1-25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, out of Fort Carson, Colorado, gives an AH-64 Apache familiarization briefs during Garuda Shield 2014. Approximately 1,200 personnel from the U.S. Army and Indonesian armed forces conducted a series of training events focused on peace support operations.

Division.

He described the process as “an operational deployment that is exercising capabilities, versus simply an exercise.”

Instead of one small unit traveling to an exercise for a short amount of time, Pathways concentrates on maximizing a deploying task force’s readiness, reducing redundancies in theater,

maximizing cooperative opportunities and placing forces throughout the Pacific theater for an extended period, which has never been done before in the region.

The Pathway’s rotational force will increase the U.S. Army presence in the Pacific without the need of building new military installations. Pacific Pathways also creates increased readi-

ness for U.S. Army and partner forces during multinational training engagements through a full range of missions.

Pacific Pathways began earlier this year with a four-month three-series exercise: Garuda Shield, Indonesia; Keris Strike, Malaysia; and Orient Shield, Japan. The three exercises offered realistic training in a variety of climates, terrain and environments. During the one-month gap in exercises, the Soldiers participated in port operations and expanded their cultural knowledge with familiarization and cultural awareness training.

USARPAC’s I Corps and 25th ID provided command and control along with additional support for the first series of exercises for the Pacific Pathways concept.

Throughout the deployment, Soldiers will have opportunities to conduct numerous training scenarios, including a bilateral live-fire exercise with Strykers, AH-64 Apaches, UH-60 Black Hawks and HH-60 Pave Hawks. The training will also include an air assault, bilateral jungle training, medical first responder training, mounted counter-improvised explosive device training, unmanned aerial surveillance training and port operations.

Next year, the Pathway’s deployment will increase to a nine-month rotation incorporating exercises: Cobra Gold, Thailand; Foal Eagle, South Korea; and Balikatan, Philippines.

While the Pacific will continue to gain attention and refocused efforts, Pacific Pathways will continue building many partnerships.

8th TSC strengthens relationships, partnerships, leadership

8TH THEATER SUSTAINMENT COMMAND
Public Affairs

The 8th Theater Sustainment Command family of troops continued its commitment to serving as the Pacific Theater’s “PREMIER” sustainment team by strengthening relationships, building partnerships and developing leadership throughout its diverse ranks and among its joint, multinational and interagency counterparts.

As the senior Army logistics command in the region, 8th TSC troops employed their 167 different skill-sets and 35 unique capabilities during exercises, engagements and missions across the globe, demonstrating their dedication to posturing and preparing assigned forces, executing flexible mission command, synchronizing operational and theater sustainment effects and engaging regional partners.

8th TSC teams from multiple brigades deployed to Afghanistan and countries throughout the Pacific, providing unique capabilities down to the team-level. Troops from across the TSC’s brigades participated in more than 25 major joint/combined training exercises and military-to-military engagements, to include watercraft assets, divers and sustainment troops playing major roles in several operations during the Rim of the Pacific 2014.

The TSC also continued to develop its expeditionary nature with vital contributions to readiness with its “Logistics Innovation Initiatives in Sustainment Mission Command” and agile mission command variations, to include its early entry command post (EECP) and newly created humanitarian assistance survey team (HAST).

In addition to the TSC’s three Hawaii-based subordinate brigades, its 175th Financial Management Support Center also conducted theater finance operations and provided technical oversight for all finance operations across the U.S. Army-Pacific area of responsibility, and its 8th Human Resources Sust. Center provided human resource services in nearly every exercise in the region, including the first Pacific Pathways rotation.

TSC troops represented the Army and America while serving in other countries this year, and strengthened their ties locally by volunteering thousands of hours to school partnership programs and other veterans and community outreach efforts and events across Oahu.

8th Military Police Brigade

The 8th MP Bde. continued its partner relationships with foreign nations, government agencies and the local community through exercises and community outreach.

The brigade’s headquarters also served as the



Sgt. 1st Class Mary E. Ferguson, 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Members of 8th TSC’s newly formed HAST set-up their expeditionary command post as part of a validation exercise June 2-6. The exercise prepared the team for its first three-month rotation as USARPAC’s primary on-call HAST element.

higher headquarters for the diverse subordinate units of the 130th Engineer Bde. and 45th Sust. Bde. while the two brigades’ headquarters were deployed to Afghanistan.

The 8th MP Bde.’s headquarters supported joint forces interoperability during Keen Edge 2014 in Japan, and conducted an “All Hazards Exercise” on Oahu that tested, trained and built collaboration among first responders across the command and the community, to include its Special Reaction Team and Military Working Dog detachment.

Elements of the 738th MP Bn. supported units during rotations at the Joint Readiness Training Center and the National Training Center, and the battalion’s MP troops provided security at Oahu installations and during several large community events.

The 71st Chemical Co. deployed to Kuwait in November, and its troops are currently conducting site survey and sampling missions in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

Troops from the 303rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Bn. won the Department of the Army’s EOD Team of the Year Competition. The battalion also supported nine Joint Personnel Accountability Command missions, two subject matter expert exchanges with other countries’ militaries, and 11 other humanitarian-related missions

throughout the Pacific theater, and responded to 136 missions in support of Homeland Defense. The 303rd troops also provided security for the United Nations General Assembly and the president’s tour of the region.

45th Sustainment Brigade

The 45th Sust. Bde.’s headquarters deployed and returned from Afghanistan this year, completing its eight-month mission as the final brigade to headquarter the U.S. Central Command Materiel Recovery Element (CMRE) charged with sorting, tracking and recovering all U.S. military equipment from an operational area roughly the size of the state of Texas.

The CMRE oversaw the retrograde process for 6,755 pieces of theater-provided equipment valuing more than \$300 million, and the brigade also took command of two engineer battalions and a combat sustainment support battalion with troops at 46 bases conducting deconstruction and retrograde operations across Afghanistan.

In addition to its usual joint cargo transportation missions to and from the Big Island, the unit’s Logistic Support Vessels also played a major role during surface/vertical lift, causality evacuation scenarios and “Logistics over the Shore” operations during RIMPAC 2014, and its Harbormaster Command and Control Center

(HCCC) provided command and control during the exercise’s port operations.

The unit’s watercraft operators also deployed to Kuwait, supporting a six-month cargo delivery operation in the Persian Gulf.

The brigade’s units also provided movement control, signal, finance, human resources, transportation, quartermaster, and maintenance support and capabilities across the region.

130th Eng. Brigade

The 130th Eng. Bde.’s headquarters redeployed from Afghanistan in June after serving nine-months as the Theater Engineer Brigade Headquarters, training and advising the Afghan National Army’s National Eng. Bde., while synchronizing deconstruction efforts.

The 65th Eng. Bn., which redeployed from Afghanistan in June, was re-aligned to the 2nd Stryker Bde. Combat Team, 25th ID, in the Army-wide transition of engineer battalions to brigade engineer battalions.

84th Eng. Bn. units conducted construction and training missions throughout the Pacific region, enhancing military training facilities on island and providing quality control and training for construction projects with multinational counterparts across the theater.

The 7th Eng. Dive Det. deployed to Cambodia for a month to partner and train Cambodian Mine Action Center divers, spent two months in Alaska repairing floating breakwaters and training in cold-water, deep-water situations, and conducted port reconnaissance during RIMPAC.

The 95th Eng. Co. conducted constant training to increase combat readiness and prepare for Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercises and other contingency operations while serving as “PACOM’s unit of choice.”



Capt. Laura Beth Beebe, 130th Eng. Bde

The 130th Eng. Bde. works with Thai soldiers to build rebar cages for footers that will hold the columns of a building being constructed in Paktongchi, Thailand.

JAN
FEB
MAR
APR
MAY
JUN
JUL
AUG
SEPT
OCT
NOV
DEC

2014

year in review

2ND STRYKER BRIGADE
COMBAT TEAM
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — As 2014 comes to an end and 2015 begins, it’s time to look back and reflect on the missions and accomplishments of the 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, that were a part of this year.

The brigade’s focus throughout the year was re-shaping and rebuilding relationships within the Hawaiian community, as well as with our joint and Pacific partners.

In preparation for assumption of the division’s Contingency Response Force and upcoming Pacific Pathways deployment, the brigade conducted a training rotation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.

The Warrior Brigade deployed and conducted live-fire exercises in surrounding areas as close as Oahu, and joint training exercises as far as Thailand and New Zealand.



Staff Sgt. Sean Everette,
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj Jeffrey Sweezer accepts the NCO sword and responsibility for the Warrior Brigade from commander Col. Thomas Mackey, Jan. 24.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 14th Inf. Regiment, partnered with the New Zealand Defence Forces on the North and South Islands of New Zealand for Exercise Kiwi Koru 2014 and Exercise Lightning Strike.

Kiwi Koru, Lightning Strike and Cobra Gold in Thailand are multinational military training exercises designed to enhance military-to-military relations between participating forces while supporting the development of the host nations’



Spc. Tyler Meister, 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Hawaii Army National Guard

1-21st Inf. Regt., 2nd SBCT, arrives at Phitsanulok International Airport, Mueang District, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 6. The 1-21st warriors were the Army’s main body participating in Cobra Gold 2014.

amphibious capabilities.

This year, the brigade was strengthened by adding a new battalion into it ranks, as well as changing its command team. Col. Thomas H. Mackey was replaced by Col. David B. Womack, and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Crosby was replaced by Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey D. Sweezer.

Following a deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan, the 65th Bde. Engineer Bn. was activated, Oct. 21, as a new and valued member of the Warrior Brigade.

The 65th Bde. Eng. Bn. provided over 100,000 kilometers of clearance effort while also supporting 4th Inf. Div.’s main effort in the handover of tactical infrastructure to Afghan National Security Forces during its deployment.

While training and successful deployments are always things to be proud of, the year marked a year when the Soldiers of the 2nd SBCT stood a little taller than the rest.

In April, 2nd Lt. Michael Rose and 2nd Lt. John Bergman, 1-21st Inf. Regt., won first place in the Army’s annual Best Ranger Competition at Fort Benning, Georgia.

During a ceremony at the Kroc Center, the Joint Venture Education Forum recognized six 2nd SBCT Soldiers for their dedication to the School Partnership Program (JVEF is a cooperative venture between U.S. Pacific Command and the Hawaii Department of Education to promote interaction between the military and state educators. The School Partnership Program is a part of this venture and is how the Army is able to reach out to the community to give a helping hand to area schools.)

As the Warrior Brigade continues to prepare for future contingency missions and deployments, we would like to thank the families for their support. Without the families of the 2nd SBCT, none of these accomplishments would have been possible.



Staff Sgt. Carlos Davis, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

(From left) Col. Thomas Mackey, former commander, 2nd SBCT; Maj. Gen. Charles Flynn, commander, 25th ID; and Col. David Womack, commander, 2nd SBCT, return to the reviewing stand after Womack accepted command of the Warrior Brigade from Mackey.

Bronco’s historic year closes like it began, with hard training

SGT. BRIAN C. ERICKSON
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, “Broncos,” 25th Infantry Division, finishes out the year just like they started it — with Soldiers training daily.

Soldiers and family members of the brigade began the year of events when they took to the Kolekole Pass, in honor of fallen Bronco Soldiers, with the 3rd Annual Bronco Memorial Run.



Sgt. Sean Freiberg, 2nd Battalion,
35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team

A 2-35th Inf. Regt. “Cacti” Soldier leads heads downriver during the JOTC at Schofield Barracks. The course is the first of its kind since Panama’s JOTC closed in 1999.

In March, the Bronco Brigade became the first unit to partake in an Enhanced Leader Development Program instructed by the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. To close out the month of March, the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, “Raiders,” hosted a Junior Spur Ride in front of the brigade building in Quad F.

Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 35th Inf. Regt., “Cacti,” and 3-4th Cav. Regt., became the first units to complete the new Jungle Operation Training Course, here. The JOTC is the first jungle course since the Panama location closed in 1999.

During the month of June, the Broncos made history by having Spc. Tinita Taylor, Headquarters and Headquarter Company, 3rd BCT, complete the entire two weeks of JOTC with the infantrymen.

From June 16-20, the brigade underwent



Sgt. Brian C. Erickson, 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

Col. Scott W. Kelly, commander, 3rd BCT, passes the brigade colors to Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Johnson, senior enlisted adviser, 3rd BCT, signifying he has officially taken command of the Bronco Brigade, June 27.



Sgt. Brian C. Erickson, 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

Soldiers from 2-35th Inf. Regt. and Singaporean soldiers of the 23rd Singapore Infantry Brigade, 9th Division, Singapore Army, conduct counter IED training at Area X on Schofield Barracks, July 17.

changes of command in five of the six battalions by holding a ceremony each day during the week.

June 19, the 3rd Bde. Special Troops Bn. was re-designated as the 29th Brigade Engineer Bn. (Re-flagging is a way the Army retains its more storied units, and the 29th BEB is the oldest of all U.S. military mapping units.)

The brigade changed its commander the following week, as the Broncos welcomed in Col. Scott W. Kelly and bid farewell to Col. Brian S. Eifler.

Soldiers from the Cacti battalion got the opportunity to train alongside soldiers of the Singaporean army during Operation Tiger Balm,



Sgt. Brian Erickson, 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

Spc. Tinita Taylor, HHC, 3rd BCT, receives her Jungle Expert tab from Capt. Robert Conway, commander, Co. C, 2-27th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, during the JOTC graduation ceremony.

July 14-26.

The Soldiers of Battery A, 3rd Bn., 7th Field Artillery Regt., became one of the first units to travel back to New Zealand for Operation Lighting Kiwi, restarting a relationship between the countries’ military forces after 34 years.

The 2-27th Inf. Regt. “Wolfhounds” families opened their homes to orphans from the Holy Family Home orphanage in Osaka, Japan, during their annual visit to Hawaii.

In October, the 325th Bde. Support Bn. activated its Echo Forward Support Company and re-flagged its existing forward support companies during a ceremony. Co E. will support the 29th BEB.

To finish off a year of technical and tactical training for the Bronco Brigade, the brigade conducted Operation Bronco Resolution during the first two weeks of December to train, validate and integrate staff with command post operations, the operations process and information systems.

As another year comes to an end, 2015 will bring new opportunities to serve for the Soldiers of 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

25th ID lauds significant achievements in 2014

STAFF SGT. MATTHEW G. RYAN
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The year of 2014 was filled with new challenges, successes, renewed missions and continued partnerships for the Soldiers of the Tropic Lightning Division, the Army’s premier ground force in the Pacific.

For the first time since 1995, Soldiers representing the 25th ID, 2nd Lt. Michael Rose and 2nd Lt. John Bergman, took home first place in the David E. Grange Jr. Best Ranger Competition, beating out active and reserve units competing at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Another name was added to the Medal of Hon-

With the Army opening more positions for women, the 25th ID leaned forward in the foxhole with several female Soldiers attending a 10-day assessment in preparation to possibly take on the Ranger Training Assessment Course conducted at Fort Benning, Georgia.

For the brigades, the year was filled with joint

enhanced capabilities to the theater commander. They played an integral part in the multinational and joint service exercise Rim of the Pacific, in and around the islands of Hawaii, by providing aerial support, security and scouting capabilities with the help of the Apache helicopters assigned to the 25th CAB, but stationed in Fort Carson, Colorado.

The Division Artillery, or DI-VARTY, was reactivated, Oct. 1, after almost a decade, also marking the 73rd birthday of the Tropic Lightning Division.

The division was a critical component of the inaugural Pacific Pathways, serving as the mission command headquarters for two of the three multinational exercises: Keris Strike in Malaysia and Garuda Shield in Indonesia.

This year held a first for many within the Tropic Lightning Division and the next year looks to bring even more, with the continued Pacific Pathways and more regional partnerships to ensure the stability and security of the Asia-Pacific region.



Sgt. Sean Freiberg, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division

Warriors from Co. A, 2-35th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, use a poncho raft to tactically maneuver down a river during the first phase of jungle operations training at the Tropic Lightning Academy.

There was a change in leadership, welcoming in Maj. Gen. Charles A. Flynn as the new division commanding general and U.S. Army-Hawaii senior commander.

With the strategic rebalance to the Pacific region, home to five of the world’s largest armies, the 25th Infantry Division engaged in more than 10 joint exercises and hosted more than 15 senior leader engagements from foreign nations, fostering partnerships throughout the Pacific.



Staff Sgt. Matthew G. Ryan, 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

“The Army’s Actions on December 7th, 1941 Commemoration” at Fort DeRussy, Dec. 7, features a remembrance wreath laying ceremony and guests from the Greatest Generation.

or wall in the headquarters building, with the new recipient, Sgt. (then-Spc. 4) Ardie R. Copas, Company C, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Regiment, 25th ID, for his actions in World War II, brining the total of MOH recipients to more than 40 for the Division.

The Lightning Academy opened the Jungle Operations Training Course this year, offering versatile jungle warfare training to Soldiers on Oahu and around the Army.

exercises and training deployments, focused on readiness and preparedness as they rotated through responsibility for crisis response force duties as part of the rapid response force within the Pacific.

The 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team “Warrior Brigade” had a very busy year starting off with less than 100 days notice before deployment to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, for readiness training exercises.

The 3rd BCT “Bronco Brigade” was the first brigade to have all battalions complete the JOTC from the Lightning Academy. This marks the first time since 1999 Soldiers have undergone a jungle training school.

The 25th Combat Aviation Brigade “Wings of Lightning” certified all new aircraft — UH-60M and HH-60M Black Hawks and the AH-64E Guardian Apache — by conducting deck landings, providing expanded interoperability and



Photo courtesy of 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

The team of 2nd Lt. Michael Rose (left) and 2nd Lt. John Bergman hold aloft their Colt pistols after winning the 2014 Best Ranger Competition. The team came from 13th place, after the first day, to win.

25th CAB wraps up successful year of complex missions

CAPT. RICHARD BARKER
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

In 2014, at its most dynamic moment, the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, was simultaneously improving military relations in four countries, conducting joint training with the Marine Corps and Air Force, supporting troops across Hawaii, Alaska and Colorado, and maintaining an 18-hour-up contingency response force.

Providing aviation support across multiple complex missions throughout the expanse of the Pacific theater is a result of the 25th CAB’s focus on the development of rapidly deployable aviation task forces capable of delivering flexible, scalable and customized aviation support packages.

A key focus that resulted in increased capabilities for the 25th CAB came from relentlessly strengthening lasting relationships with Army ground units, neighboring U.S. military services and Pacific-partnered nations.

In supporting ground troops, the 25th CAB provided aviation packages to the 25th ID’s Jungle Operations Training Course, where ground commanders received realistic training allowing them to request last-minute custom aviation support packages.

The 25th CAB additionally provided aviation training to the 25th ID Lightning Academy Pathfinders, the Lightning Academy Air Assault School and the Rappel-Master Course.

With a reputation as an aviation brigade capable of providing flexible aviation support, the 25th CAB was selected to deploy a task force to Alaska to provide air support integration in preparation for the National Training Center rotations of 1st Stryker Bde. Combat Team and 4th Inf. BCT, 25th ID.

With the Navy, the 25th CAB executed joint maritime rotary-wing ops during Koa Kai 2014, which established deep integration by embarking Soldiers onto ships to gain direct shipboard command and control of the aviation task force.

1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, located at Fort Carson, Colorado, deployed eight AH-64E Apache Guardians to Hawaii to augment the 25th CAB making history as the Apaches touched Hawaiian soil for the first time. Further expanding maritime capabilities, the 25th CAB conducted CH-47F Chinook and the first AH-64E model Apache deck landing qualifications.

New maritime capabilities were put to the test as the 25th CAB integrated all five airframes into the world’s largest international maritime exercise, Rim of the Pacific 2014. The monthlong joint, inter-agency, inter-governmental, multinational training event, hosted by the Navy’s Third Fleet, involved 22 nations, 49 surface ships, six submarines, more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel in, and around, the Hawaiian Islands.

Additional joint training included a mass ca-



Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Chelsy Alamina

Japan Ground-Self-Defense Force warriors ready their gear before boarding a 25th CAB Black Hawk during air assault training in support of Exercise Orient Shield 2014.

sualty exercise with the Air Force; a personnel recovery exercise with the Air Force and Marine Corps; forward aviation refueling point interoperability sling loads, and HALO operations with the Marine Corps; C-17 static load training with the Hawaii Air National Guard; and air assault training with the UH ROTC program.

The 25th CAB built significant healthy international relationships, to include the provision of aviation support and training to Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia and Japan.

During Tiger Balm, a bilateral exercise focused on strengthening the partnership between U.S. and Singapore armies, the 25th CAB supported 9th Singapore Army Forces, which also marked the first-ever AH-64E live fire on Oahu.

Indonesia’s Garuda Shield saw the 25th CAB train Indonesian army pilots in air assault, medevac, reconnaissance, security, and attack operation tactics and procedures.

In a largely symbolic event, two AH-64E Apaches participated in the Indonesian Military Parade honoring outgoing Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

For Keris Strike in Malaysia, the 25th CAB provided air assault training and 24-hour medevac coverage, allowing the Malaysian military to gain familiarity with aviation capabilities the U.S. Army could provide during humanitarian assistance or contingency operations.

In support of Japan’s Orient Shield, the 25th CAB executed air assault, attack, reconnaissance, security and medevac training with Japan Self Defense Forces.

A testament to 25th CAB’s successes, it was selected to provide aviation support for the second Pacific Pathways rotation scheduled in 2015.

25th CAB proved to have a flexible, customizable mission command headquarters in 2014.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Hubenthal, Defense Media Activity

Simulated casualties are transported to TAMC by a 25th CAB CH-47F Chinook during a humanitarian aid and disaster relief exercise, July 11. The realistic joint service training was part of RIMPAC 2014.



Chief Warrant Officer 3 Mark Leung, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade

Co. C, 3-25th Avn. Regt. Black Hawk participates in a casualty evacuation exercise aboard the Army’s LSV-2 CW3 Harold C. Clinger with Army mariners from the 163rd Trans. Det. and Sailors of the Navy’s Coastal Riverine Squadron 11 during RIMPAC 2014, July 10.



JAN
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2014

year in review

TAMC highlights 2014 mission in Pacific region

PACIFIC REGIONAL MEDICAL COMMAND Public Affairs

HONOLULU —Tripler Army Medical Center kicked off 2014 by establishing a smoke-free campus policy.

“Tripler’s proactive adoption of a tobacco-free campus puts us at the tip of the spear,” said Col. Lawrence Connell, then chief of staff for the Pacific Regional Medical Command. “The Department of Defense hopes to launch a new initiative transforming all military installations into tobacco-free facilities by 2020.”

In February, TAMC’s Family Practice Clinic completed construction on a pharmacy located right at the clinic.

“We foresee the Family Medicine Pharmacy benefiting all TAMC patients,” said Lt. Col. Tou Yang, chief, TAMC Department of Pharmacy.

“Patients seen within the Family Medicine Clinic will no longer have to make the trip to the main pharmacy. At the same time, the patient load at the main pharmacy will be diluted, resulting in less congestion and shorter wait times.”

In March, Tripler earned accreditation from the Joint Commission, the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care, by demonstrating compliance with national standards for health care quality and safety.

To receive this recognition, Tripler underwent a rigorous five-day survey where important functions relating to the care of patients and hospital management were evaluated.

The month of June is typically known for graduation dates and TAMC was no exception. The 121 members of the Graduate Professional Health Education Class of 2014 participated in a commencement ceremony, June 13.

July was a big month for TAMC with the completed installation of 41 patient lift systems into private and semi-private patient rooms, enhancing the quality of care provided to patients.

That same month, TAMC also partnered with

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth to help it establish its own virtual specialty consultation system, called Health Experts Online at Portsmouth (HELP), similar to TAMC’s Pacific Asynchronous TeleHealth (PATH) system.

“I think it will be important for Navy Medicine East. We’ve found that two-thirds of the clinical questions in PATH can be answered quickly and without that face-to-face visit with the specialist,” stated Lt. Col. C. Becket Mahnke, TAMC PATH director.

He also added that 97 percent of consults are answered within a week.

July also marked a new chapter in the growth of the regional medical command with the official split between TAMC and PRMC.

This split enables expanded and enhanced medical support and partnership throughout the area of responsibility.

“TAMC will have a colonel commander, like all other Army Medical Centers, but will retain its unique position, however, as the tertiary referral center in the Pacific, as a top producer of health care for the Army Medical Department, and as a critical partner in the Pacific with other service facilities, civilian hospitals and our longstanding joint venture partner, the VA,” stated Brig. Gen. Dennis Doyle, previous commander of PRMC.

TAMC introduced a new approach to pregnancy, from first visit to birth, that helps put expectant mothers in charge of their pregnancy and aids them in having a more active role throughout the pregnancy known as Centering Pregnancy.

Legacy of Life Hawaii presented TAMC with its highest honor, the Health and Human Services Medal of Honor Award, for organ and tissue donation best practices during an outdoor ceremony on Sept. 25.

TAMC was also recognized for its homeless outreach and community involvement by Kymberly Pine, councilmember, District One, who presented Col. David Dunning, TAMC’s commander, with a Council of the City and County of Honolulu Certificate of Declaration on Oct. 25.

Wrapping up October, TAMC’s Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB) held a ribbon cutting ceremony, unveiling the \$60 million construction project that included a 120-room, five-story barracks constructed and designed by the Army Corps of Engineers, and kicked-off Warrior Care Month.

TAMC Soldiers shined throughout this past



Ana Allen, Pacific Regional Medical Command Public Affairs

(From left) 1st. Lt. Ashton Kimbley, Safe Patient Handling program manager, TAMC; Brig. Gen. Dennis Doyle, commander, PRMC; and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Luciano, senior enlisted adviser for PRMC and TAMC, celebrate the phase one completion of 41 patient lift systems into private and semi-private patient rooms, June 26.



Spc. Paxton Busch, Pacific Regional Medical Command Public Affairs

Graduate Health Education students salute for the national anthem at their commencement ceremony, June 13. The graduates are health care professionals comprised of 107 Army officers, one Air Force officer and 13 civilians, several of whom will be moving on to operations assignments here, in Hawaii, and in Korea, Germany, Egypt, Alaska and the mainland.

year with four Expert Field Medical Badge graduates, seven Sergeant Audie Murphy Club inductions and 20 Air Assault graduates.

TAMC was also part of a larger achievement. PRMC finished the year with all 14 medical homes being recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance as Army patient-

centered medical homes.

TAMC promotes, sustains and enhances service members’ health while training, developing and equipping a medical force that supports full-spectrum operations, and it delivers leading-edge health services to warriors, family members and veterans.



Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Wrighton Jr. (center) accepts responsibility as the senior enlisted adviser for the 18th MEDCOM (DS) from Command Sgt. Maj. Alexis A. King, during a ceremony on Fort Shafter’s historic Palm Circle, Monday. King (left) moves on to become the commandant of the NCO Academy at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

18th MEDCOM (DS) reviews year

SGT. 1ST CLASS NICOLE HOWELL
18th Medical Command
(Deployment Support) Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The 18th Medical Command (Deployment Support) finished the year by welcoming Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Wrighton Jr. as the new senior enlisted adviser for the unit, Monday.

It bid farewell to Command Sgt. Maj. Alexis A. King, who was selected as the commandant for the Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, after only 15 months with the 18th MEDCOM (DS).

In early February, the unit finalized its Operational Center (OPCEN), which is used as a medical coordination center to Army medical units conducting contingency operations within the Pacific area of responsibility.

Its functionality was put to the test with two large-scale training exercises in March and August, Key Resolve ’14 and Ulchi-Freedom Guardian ’14. By August, the OPCEN was fully mission-capable.

Having this center allows the unit to support the concept of a Joint Medical Operations Element (JM OE). This element would provide U.S. Pacific Command and U.S.

Army-Pacific a unique capability: a flexible, single service medical headquarters that can mission command any medical element or task force that can be augmented with personnel from all services to meet mission requirements.

As a component of the JMOE, the unit created a Medical Response Package (MRP) to aid USPACOM and USARPAC with scalable, tailor-able medical packages consisting of personnel and equipment to assist in the event of a humanitarian aid or disaster relief mission. The unit deployed this element once and put them on alert three times within 2014.

Overlapping these events, the 18th MEDCOM (DS) continued to focus on medical diplomacy in the Pacific region through Theater Cooperation Program (TCP) missions. In Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Thailand, the 18th MEDCOM (DS) taught the Medical First Responder Course created by the Defense Institute for Military Operations (DIMO).

In addition to teaching MFR in Sri Lanka, the unit led the Humanitarian De-mining Action mission, supported by the 74th Explosive Ordnance Company and Public Health

Command.

Each mission is intended to demonstrate commitment to the Army’s Asia-Pacific allies, as well as strengthen partnerships within the region through the education, support and collaboration of medical practices and procedures used worldwide.

The command has already begun to plan future engagements expanding its impact to more Pacific partners.

18th MEDCOM (DS) also conducted another mission within the Pacific by supporting the local community. The unit participates in the Army School Sponsorship Program, where it conducted two visits to Radford High School in Honolulu. During visits, the 18th MEDCOM (DS) Soldiers focused on the promotion of the Army’s Office of the Surgeon General’s Performance Triad, consisting of nutrition, activity and rest (or sleep).

Other key events during the year included one Soldier achieving the Expert Field Medical Badge and seven Soldiers inducted into the Order of Military Merit.

The command also held the 18th MEDCOM 6th annual officers vs. enlisted Turkey Bowl to continue its focus on building esprit de corps.

Dynamic Signal team provides cyber defense

LIANA KIM

311th Signal Command (Theater) Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The year brought exciting new roles in cyber defense, emerging signal technology and new leadership teams for the active component Soldiers, Army Reservists and civilians of the 311th Signal Command (Theater).

May 28 welcomed Maj. Gen. Lawrence Brock as the new 311th SC(T) commander and U.S. Army-Pacific G6; July 8 heralded Command Sgt. Maj. Darris Curry as the senior enlisted leader for Signaleers in the Pacific.

As members of a multi-component command and the designated signal element for the Pacific theater, dynamic teams of Soldiers and civilians continued to achieve milestones for the Army signal community, provide a wide spectrum of signal support operations, and build relationships and secure communications with partner nations throughout the region.

“When folks ask me what is Signal’s participation in cyber defense, I tell them that there is no cyber without Signal,” said Maj. Gen. John B. Morrison Jr., commander, U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command and deputy commander, U.S. Army Cyber Command, Signal Center of Excellence, during his remarks as guest speaker during a two-day communicators forum, the capstone event of Signal Regimental Week.

This was the first year the forum was conducted as a joint event, to include information man-

agers from across the Department of Defense. The command’s two newly re-designated Regional Cyber Centers (RCC) completed merging their theater network operations, security centers and regional computer emergency response teams, a process that began in 2013. The RCC-PAC on Oahu and the RCC-K in Korea are tasked with the authority to operate, maintain and defend the Army’s cyber realm.

The RCC-PAC received the Psychologically Healthy Workplace award and was designated the 2014 RCC of the Year.

Twenty-eight Soldiers of the 311th SC(T) Support Unit of Costa Mesa, California, deployed in March with the 335th SC(T) Forward, on their 34th rotation to Kuwait and Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Throughout their yearlong deployment as part of “Det34,” they provided continuous support with the 335th SC(T) to network operations, satellite communications, signal systems integration, troubleshooting and help desk operations at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. They’ll redeploy in the spring of 2015.

As part of the command’s core mission to maintain and defend the Pacific LandWar Net, the 311th supported USARPAC’s Pacific Pathways campaign by providing help desk support and tactical satellite communication platforms for joint and combined military exercises with coalition partners throughout the Pacific region, including Cobra Gold in Thailand, Key Resolve



Spc. Jacob Kohrs, 311th Signal Command [Theater]

A 311th SC(T) Signaleer searches a simulated detainee at Helemano Military Reservation as part of the Best Warrior Competition, May 11.

and Ulchi Freedom Guardian in South Korea, Balikatan in the Philippines, and Yama Sakura and Keen Edge in Japan.

The 311th SC(T) and USARPAC communications team supported the Army’s information assurance and cyber security awareness campaigns in October and November, ending with a cyber security stand-down.

The 1st Sig. Bde. built on its legacy as the “Voice of the ROK” by engineering, installing, operating, maintaining, defending and extending operational cyber networks on the Korean Peninsula. *(Editor’s note: Read the rest of the 311th SC(T) story at www.HawaiiArmyWeekly.com.)*

Sea Dragons continue as ‘First line of Defense’ for Pacific

MAJ. TROY FREY

94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The “Sea Dragons” continue to strengthen partnerships with America’s allies in the Pacific Region, our joint brethren in the other military branches, other Army commands, as well as increasing rapport with the local communities and building bonds within the unit to mentor and foster cohesion and fellowship among the unit’s own Soldiers.

Over the past year, the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command continuously trained for its wartime mission by participating in more than 15 joint, combined and bilateral exercises with other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, and allied and partner countries, to include more than 30 joint theater air missile defense command and control, asset management and system development exercises with the 613th Air Operations Center.



Sgt. Kimberly K. Menzies, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs

Chaplain (Col.) Ken Revell, 94th AAMDC, volunteers his time at Linapuni Elementary during a pumpkin carving event, Oct. 27, in preparation for Halloween.

The 94th AAMDC created the Pacific Army Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) Strategy providing a unique and comprehensive analysis of Asia-Pacific AMD requirements.

At the beginning of the year, 94th AAMDC Soldiers joined Air Force, Navy, Marine and Japanese AMD counterparts for the Navy War College’s weeklong IAMD War Game Series.

They also participated in the Japanese biennial joint command post exercise, Keen Sword; the Republic of Korea annual combined and joint command post exercises, Key Resolve and Ulchi Freedom Guardian; and Valiant Shield, a U.S.-only, biennial field training exercise with a focus on integration of joint training among U.S. forces.

Soldiers from the 94th AAMDC made history as the first U.S. Army participants in exercise Valiant Shield 2014, where they tested the interoperability of the air and missile defense planning and control system (AMDPCS) with the air mis-

sile defense forces of the Air Force, Marines and Navy.

The 94th AAMDC welcomed Col. Eric Sanchez as the new commander during a change of command ceremony, June 27, which showcased the joint nature of the 94th command by featuring Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific as the host and Gen. Herbert J. Carlisle, commander, Pacific Air Forces as the guest speaker.

On Sept. 5, the 94th AAMDC held a ceremony that highlighted the importance of sexual harassment/assault response and prevention by recognizing the unit’s sexual assault awareness year. The 94th command wanted to emphasize the importance of SHARP every day all year long.

The Sea Dragons were able to build resiliency through other events, such as prayer breakfasts and an education mentorship luncheon.

(Editor’s note: Read the rest of the 94th AAMDC story at www.HawaiiArmyWeekly.com.)





Story and photo by
DONNA KLAPAKIS
599th Transportation Brigade
Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — In 2014, the 599th Transportation Brigade kept up its main mission of deploying and distributing cargo throughout the Pacific while it adjusted to reassigned responsibilities and changing parameters.

During the calendar year, the unit made a total of 48,930 shipments, with 1,397,797 measurement tons imported and 27,825,188 exported. That is the equivalent to the weight of about 4,175 Aloha Stadiums, at 14 million pounds apiece.

In April, the 2nd Stryker Bde. Combat Team and 25th Combat Aviation Bde. deployed from Hawaii to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California. During this move, the 599th found it needed to call on expertise

from its battalions to help make sure unit tallies were correct and to help out Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor, the 599th’s partner in Hawai.

The brigade’s battalions, which are located throughout the Pacific, now send deployment and distribution management teams (DDMTs) to Hawaii for big deployments.

The biggest mission the 599th supported was in the second half of 2014 — the new Army operation, Pacific Pathways, which is the Army’s main effort to rebalance its forces to the Pacific through consolidating exercises under one umbrella.

Under Pacific Pathways, the main change for transportation is that cargo for different exercises within one pathway will move from place to place on the same ship, rather than different carriers for each move, as was common in the past.

Busy shippers

During 2014, the 599th Trans. Bde. participated in or supported Pacific military exercises Key Resolve, Foal Eagle, Ulchi Freedom Guardian, Balikatan, Cobra Gold, Forager Fury, Valiant Shield, Garuda Shield, Keris Strike, Orient Shield and Pacific Pathways.

Exercises Garuda Shield, Keris Strike and Orient Shield were Pacific Pathways exercises in 2014. The Military Sealift Command chartered one vessel, the Clipper Makiri, to move all cargo for the 2014 portion of the operation.

“Our strategic role in the (Pacific Pathways) operation is threefold,” said Col. Shannon Cox, 599th commander. “The 599th assisted in the initial planning and concept for Pacific Pathways with USARPAC (U.S. Army-Pacific) and 8th Theater Sustainment Command.

“Second, in conjunction with SDDC headquarters, we coordinate with Military Sealift Command for vessel selection and we conduct customer liaison,” Cox continued.

“Third, our DDMTs document cargo and perform single port manager functions during vessel upload and discharge,” he said.

The first Pacific Pathways move the brigade accomplished was from Barbers Point in July and August. This also gave the unit a chance to exercise its Hawaii stevedore and related terminal services contract for the first time.

Lt. Col. Joshua Vogel is the 599th’s commander at the 836th Trans. Bn. on Yokohama North Dock, Japan. His DDMTs supported six Pacific Pathways moves during 2014.

Vogel said, that from his perspective, the most



Maj. Shannon Johnson (right), executive officer, 836th Trans. Bn., and Frank Viray, 599th Trans. Bde. traffic management specialist, match cargo up with the stow plan aboard the Clipper Makiri, Nov. 22, at Pearl Harbor.

important change in DDMT operations for Pacific Pathways was offloading the same cargo they had earlier uploaded.

“Normally, we load up and that’s the last we see of the cargo,” said Vogel. “But in this operation, we have to work with what we do well, and what we have not done so well, on the other end.”



Joseph Bonfiglio, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District Public Affairs

Cadet Kyle Underwood (left), West Point, and project engineer Randy Itamoto discuss features of a construction project on Schofield Barracks as part of the Cadet District Engineer Program.

USACE continues support to Pacific region

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS-
Honolulu District Public Affairs

During 2014, highly motivated U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District staff supported military construction at Hawaii Army posts, with the District completing 16 projects, including three unaccompanied enlisted personnel housing units — one each at Schofield Barracks, Helemano Military Reservation, and Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC), and also the Warriors in Transition barracks and complex at Schofield.

Lt. Col. Chris Crary became the 69th commander of the District.

The District continued vital work on the U.S. Army-Pacific Mission Command Facility (MCF) at Fort Shafer. The MCF will consolidate headquarters, USARPAC, into one facility that will support mission command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific area of operations.

The District’s ohana demonstrated an unwavering willingness to work as a team to deliver projects and services, focused on quality and timeliness, as well as providing community out-

reach to local and state competitions, like MATH-COUNTS; the twice-a-year University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Engineering Career Fair; the 2014 Earth Day and National Public Lands Day at Honolulu District’s Pacific Regional Visitor Center; and the annual Engineers Week.

Unique partnerships continued with our wounded warriors and professional development within the Engineer Regiment. The District also continued partnerships with local, state and federal agencies for the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative, and signed a memorandum of agreement in January with the government of American Samoa to formalize a partnership for the Corps to sponsor STEM (science, technology, engineering and math education) in schools.

In February, several of the District’s Department of the Army interns showcased District capabilities by creating Corps of Engineers and Honolulu District photographic exhibits, highlighting the District’s missions for public display at Pearlridge Center for the 2014 Engineers Week.

In May, officials from Honolulu District, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, TAMC, and Sumo-Nan,

Inc. opened a renovated barracks at TAMC during a blessing and maile lei untying ceremony.

During the approach of Hurricane Iselle in early August, mission-essential personnel of the District’s Crisis Management, Crisis Action, Power Response, Damage Assessment, Emergency Operations Center Support, and Harbors and Channels teams assisted the Coast Guard, Hawaii State Civil Defense, FEMA and other federal, state and local agencies.

In early September, the Hon. Jo Ellen Darcy, assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Works; Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Jeff Milhorn; Honolulu District commander Crary; and other Corps team members attended the 32nd U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings on Maui.

Throughout the year, Honolulu District developed working relationships with two wounded warrior units. Then in October, at the Warrior Transition Battalion at Schofield Barracks, TAMC, USAG-HI and the 25th ID held a ribbon cutting and dedication for the Corps-built facilities.

(Editor’s note: Read the rest of the story at www.HawaiiArmyWeekly.com.)

Garrison keeps pace with changes in 2014

COMPILED BY AIKO ROSE BRUM
U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
Public Affairs

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — 2014 was a year of Enlisted Voluntary Early Separations for Soldiers, new Officer Evaluation Reports and an increased emphasis on SHARP, or Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (including its new telephone hotline).

Additionally, preventing suicide, substance abuse and safety violations were emphasized throughout U.S. Army-Hawaii.

But the biggest news, by far, was that the Department of Defense would see more cuts in military spending, troop strength and force structure in coming years.

“If we don’t move toward a sounder way to steward our nation’s defense, we face unbalanced cuts to readiness and modernization,” said Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in March.

Many received awards; among them, the director of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Michael Amarosa, received the Installation Management Command Stalwart Award for leadership in January.

Also in January, the Army released public service announcements on the Gold Star program, beginning in the Super Bowl. The program supports mothers and families who have lost a service member.

Tripler Army Medical Center began enforcing a smoke-free campus in January, too, and in February, a policy was released prohibiting use of e-cigarettes in all installation work areas.

As the Army Emergency Relief fundraising campaign began in March and the Best Warrior competitions were in full force at units, Jane Beachy earned the title of “Oahu MVP 2014” for her work overseeing the Army’s continued environmental monitoring and control efforts to prevent the spread of devil weed and more.

In late March, work began on possible Area Development Plans for USARHAW installations by a team of Garrison and installation stakeholders.

“They came up with some suggestions (for Fort DeRussy) that the City of Honolulu thought were really good, as well as the representatives from the Army who were in attendance,” said Mark Mitsunaga, master planner, Planning Division, Directorate of Public Works, USAG-HI.

March 31, the Army tightened its policy on tattoos, the uniform and hair standards. Then, April 5th was designated as “Gold Star Wives Day,” continuing efforts to honor families of the fallen.

Island Palm Communities, which provides



File photo

Mark Gillem (center), principal of The Urban Collaborative, goes over possible design scenarios of the Fort DeRussy property with Department of Defense and community stakeholders during an Area Development Plan meeting at the Hale Koa Hotel, March 21.



Courtesy of U.S. Army Garrison-Pohakuloa

Debra Zedalis (right), former region director, IMCOM-Pacific, passes the IMCOM flag to Lt. Col. Jacob Peterson as he takes command of USAG-Pohakuloa from Lt. Col. Eric Shwedo during a change of command ceremony, June 13.

property management for Hawaii’s Army family housing, was named the SatisFacts National Award Winner for excellence in resident satisfaction.

“To hear we’re ranked high among our peers in the industry confirms we are doing a great

job supporting our residents,” said Tom Adams, IPC’s director of property management.

On April 9th, Lt. Gen. David Halverson took

command of IMCOM, and shortly afterwards, Garrison received the 2014 Army Community of Excellence Gold Medal award as the top installation in the Army.

“The award reflects how USAG-HI consistently excelled at providing base operations, training support and quality of life services,” said Halverson.

The Garrison was also recognized by the Historic Hawaii Foundation for historic preservation. Then, in May DFMWR earned the 2014 Family and MWR Exemplary Workforce Development Award from the Installation Management Academy.

The Garrison welcomed Col. Richard A. Fromm as its commander, May 13th.

Soldier for Life, which encompasses the entire lifecycle of being a Soldier, replaced the Army Career and Alumni Program, and the Army opened up new career fields to women in late May.

On June 13th, Lt. Col. Jacob Peterson took command of U.S. Army Garrison-Pohakuloa.

Then, over the summer, the Army sought public comments on a Makua Military Reservation survey, and soon, public comments on the Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment, or SPEA, until Aug. 25.

In early August, the garrison responded to the threat of Hurricane Iselle.

Aug. 5th, the installation welcomed Command Sgt. Maj. Louis Felicioni as the senior enlisted adviser.

Before the year ended, Soldiers and families were urged to complete federal survey cards, make revisions to tattoo and hair policies, adopt a new camouflage uniform and contribute to the annual Combined Federal Campaign.

By Dec. 11th, the senior commander, Maj. Gen. Charles Flynn, officially announced the new USARHAW campaign, “Don’t Be a By-STANDer, Take A STAND!” which increases awareness of substance abuse, sexual assault, suicide prevention and safety violations.

USAG-HI looks forward to meeting the challenges that will come along in 2015.





Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton (back row, white hat) and 9th MSC volunteers are all smiles after planting trees and shrubs at Hahaione Elementary School, Jan. 24. The pro football QB surprised the Citizen Soldiers when he joined them to improve the community.



The color guard of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, come to attention for the singing of the national anthem at the state capitol for Gov. David Ige's inauguration ceremony. The battalion has Soldiers in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and Saipan, with its headquarters on Oahu. Ige personally requested the 100th because his father served in the historic battalion.

Citizen-Soldiers provide USARPAC with capabilities

Story and photos by
BRIAN MELANEPHY

9th Mission Support Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER FLATS — A typical day in the U.S. Army Reserve starts and ends within the broad geographic footprint of the “Pride of the Pacific,” with the sun rising in Saipan and setting in American Samoa.

The 9th Mission Support Command is the only Army Reserve command assigned directly to an Army Service Combatant Command, U.S. Army-Pacific.

As 2014 began, the 9th MSC senior leadership gathered to map out a campaign strategy plan for the organization’s long-term objectives; leaders leveraged the power of corporate intellect to design the way ahead for the organization and its subordinate commands.

For the third year, the 9th MSC partnered with the NFL during Pro Bowl Week. Soldiers joined students to plant trees at a local elementary school. Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton showed up to help beautify the campus and share in the camaraderie of community work.

In February, Gen. Vincent K. Brooks, commander, USARPAC, was the guest speaker for the command’s annual Pacific Army Reserve Banquet. At the banquet, the 9th honored World War II veteran Ronald Oba from the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

The month concluded with a combined Reserve/Guard Best Warrior Competition at Bellows Air Force Station to minimize redundancies and use good fiscal stewardship of limited resources, enabling a first-of-its-kind collaboration between the two components.

In March, Hilton invited 9th MSC leaders to an Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve Statement of Support signing at the Hilton Hawaiian Village as part Operation: Opportunity, Hilton’s worldwide plan to hire 10,000 veterans and members of the military reserves.

For the past seven years in April, 9th MSC volunteers have cleaned up one of the dirtiest streams on Oahu during the “Mauka to Makai” annual stream clean up. Volunteers pulled shopping carts, bicycles and even television sets from a local stream, helping to preserve the spirit of aloha.

The highlight of May was a first-ever Asian-Pacific Heritage Month Observance at the Army Reserve Center on Guam. Melissa Benavente Savares, mayor of Dededo, Guam, was the guest speaker.

In June, the latest batch of General Staff Officer Course graduates completed their class at the 4960th Multifunctional Training Brigade. The class included Pacific Region and mainland Reserve, Guard and active duty Soldiers.

July began with a very proud moment as surviving World War II veterans from the 100th Bn., 442nd Inf. Regt., the Legion of Honor, the highest decoration in France, were awarded for their noble service by a French admiral during Rim of the Pacific 2014.

Also in July, two soldiers from the British Army (an officer and noncommissioned officer) spent two weeks at the 9th MSC and the 303rd Maneuver Enhancement Bde, respectively, as part of the Military Reserve Exchange Program. The two 9th MSC Reserve Soldiers who hosted them later went to Britain for two weeks.

(Editor’s note: Read the rest about the 9th MSC’s Citizen Soldiers at www.HawaiiArmyWeekly.com.)



Gen. Vincent Brooks, commander, USARPAC, speaks to Reserve Soldiers, veterans and family members during the 2014 Pacific Army Reserve Banquet at the Ihilani JW Marriott, Feb. 14.

PAU HANA

"When work is finished."



1



3



2

1- Jazmine Powell, 9, and Hayden Rice, 4, youth cheerleaders from Schofield Barracks, await the arrival of the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders, Saturday, at FMWR's Winter Wonderland. 2- Youth cheerleaders from AMR and Schofield Barracks strike their best cheer pose with the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders. 3- Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders and youth cheerleaders from AMR and Schofield Barracks perform a cheerleading dance for Winter Wonderland attendees.

A snowfall of fun lands at AMR Winter Wonderland

Story and photos by
KAREN A. IWAMOTO
Staff Writer

ALIAMANU MILITARY RESERVATION — Santa, snow and ... the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders?

"It's all she's been talking about all week," said Theresa Kimes, as her 8-year-old daughter Regann bounced around next to her, striking poses in her Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) cheerleader uniform. "This is like the best Christmas gift for her."

"The Dallas Cowboys (cheerleaders) are the best," Regann added. "Can I have their uniforms?"

The Kimes were among the many families

that turned out for the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's (FMWR) 2014 Winter Wonderland at the Aliamanu Community Center, Saturday. In keeping with tradition, the event included a fundraiser breakfast with Santa, lots of games and activities and a parking lot covered in snow from POP Fishing & Marine.

"I love it," said Kendra Anderson, as she watched her 5-year-old daughter, Leilah, scoop snow into a bright red bucket while her 3-year-old son, Derrick Jr., scrambled nearby. "We had breakfast with Santa first and then came out here to see the snow."

"I'm from Colorado," she added with a laugh. "I told them, 'In Colorado it's like this all

the time,' but they don't know any different. (Leilah) was born here, then we moved away, then we came back, so this is all she knows."

2014 adds cheerleading clinic

Snow in Hawaii is usually reason enough to celebrate, especially for homesick families stationed here during the holidays, but this year's event also included a visit by several Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders who made a stopover on their USO Tour to host a cheerleading clinic for 5- to 18-year-old cheerleaders from the Schofield Barracks and AMR Child, Youth & School (CYS) Services' Youth Sports program.

"When (the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders) contacted us to say they wanted to stop by on their tour, we, of course, immediately said yes," said Xylene Lennon, FMWR special events coordinator.

The cheerleaders filled the CYS Services Teen Center at AMR, while families gathered around to watch their children learn basic dance moves and cheer techniques.

The Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders encouraged the younger cheerleaders to stay healthy and active, and to keep moving every day.

"Raise your right hand and repeat after me. 'I, say your first name, promise to put my thinking cap on and do this because I am smart and the best. Thanks.'"

After the cheerleading clinic, they stayed for a meet-and-greet, signed autographs and took pictures with families in attendance.

"It was a wonderful experience and a great memory for the girls," said Jovanna Townsend, a CYS Services Youth Sports cheerleading coach at AMR. "I think a lot of the girls really looked up to (the Dallas Cowboys cheer-

leaders), so it was nice of them to come. It gives the girls something to aspire to, you know, so they know they can start out in Youth Sports, but maybe one day they can become a cheerleader."

Townsend's 9-year-old daughter, Jayla, participated in the cheerleading clinic and enjoyed it so much that she decided to become a Dallas Cowboys fan, despite the fact that her father is a New York Giants fan.

Townsend said, "She told me, 'I don't want to betray my daddy, but you know what? I like the Dallas Cowboys. I want to be a Dallas Cowboys cheerleader.' And my husband told her, 'You better become a New York Giants cheerleader.'"

"I don't know what can be done to top this event next year," she added. "Maybe bring the Pro Bowl back to Hawaii?"

By the Numbers

Here's a look at the numbers for Winter Wonderland:

•2, the number of trucks it took to deliver the snow.

•11, the number of Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders who participated in the cheer clinic.

•25, the amount, in tons, of snow poured onto the Aliamanu Community Center parking lot.

•50, the number of youth cheerleaders from Schofield Barracks and AMR who participated in the cheer clinic.

•188, the number of tickets sold for Breakfast with Santa.



From left, Malinda Lein, 3, and Jaden Lien, 5, build a snowman with their grandmother, Kathy Giannetti, who is the former head of special events at FMWR. She said, "I love being here with my grandkids. The success of this event shows that the work we did in the past has paid off."

FFD seeks a fire-safe holiday

JEFFREY FERNAAYS
Chief of Fire Prevention
Federal Fire Department

'Tis the season to be jolly, as the holiday standard goes.

In many homes, this saying means seasonal smelling candles, a trimmed tree or a lighted home displaying holiday colors.

All these signs of the season bring comfort and joy to families, but what you may not realize is that they also bring an increased risk of fire in the home.

In the U.S., fire departments respond to 230 home structure fires caused by Christmas trees every year.

Statistics explain danger

The United States Fire Administration and the National Fire Protection Association have gathered these statistics on holiday fires. At home Christmas tree fires cause an average of six civilian deaths, 22 civilian injuries and \$18.3 million indirect property damage per year.

On average, one of every 40 reported home structure Christmas tree fires resulted in a death, 43 percent of home fires in December and 39 percent of home fires in January were associated with Christmas trees.

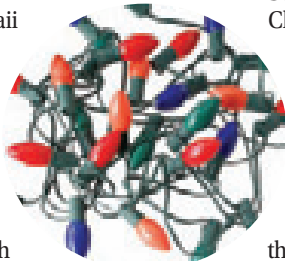
Electrical failures or malfunctions were involved with 32 per-

cent of home fires during the holidays. About 17 percent occurred when a heat source was too close to the tree, 12 percent of these fires were due to a voltage issue with the tree lights and 7 percent of the Christmas tree fires were caused by candles in or around the trees.

Safety tips

Navy Region Hawaii Federal Fire Department encourages all to follow some maintenance and decorating tips to prevent a Christmas tree fire:

- Choose a tree with fresh green needles that don't fall off when you touch them.
- Make sure the tree is at least 3 feet away from a heat source.
- Make sure the tree isn't blocking an exit, and add water to the tree stand, daily.
- Never use lit candles to decorate a tree.



•Make sure the tree lights are UL listed and used for the purpose they were designed for, indoors or outdoors.

•Replace any worn lights when bare wires are visible or have been taped back together.

•Always turn off tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

•Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it becomes dry. Dried-out trees are high fire dangers and should not be left in the home, garage or even placed outside along the house.

This is the time of year that we all should take the fire safety procedures we have been taught and be extra vigilant. Do it for your family, so you all can enjoy all the Christmas decorations and your Christmas trees that comes with this great time of the year.

Call FFD

The Federal Fire Department would like to wish everyone a wonderful and happy holiday season and practice good holiday fire safety by having a working fire extinguisher and smoke detectors.

For more information about holiday fire safety, call 471-3303.

Holiday Services



The Religious Support Office will hold the following services during this holiday season.

Protestant

- Dec. 24, 3 p.m.**, Christmas Eve Concert and Worship at Fort DeRussy (FD) Chapel
- Dec. 24, 6 p.m.**, Christmas Eve Service (Liturgical) at Wheeler Army Airfield (WAAF) Chapel
- Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m.**, Christmas Eve Service at Helemano Military Reservation (HMR) Chapel
- Dec. 24, 7 p.m.**, Christmas Eve Service at Soldiers' Chapel, SB
- Dec. 24, 7 p.m.**, Christmas Eve Service at MPC, SB
- Dec. 24**, Christmas Eve Candlelight service at Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Chapel
- Dec. 31, 10 p.m.**, Gospel New Year's Eve Service at MPC, SB

Catholic

- Dec. 13/14**, Third Sunday of Advent

- Dec. 14, 6 p.m.**, Advent Reconciliation at AMR Chapel (1st confession for children)
- Dec. 20/21**, Fourth Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 24, 5 p.m.**, Christmas Family Mass at MPC, SB
- Dec. 24, 5 p.m.**, Christmas Family Mass at AMR Chapel
- Dec. 24, 10 p.m.**, Christmas Eve Mass at WAAF Chapel
- Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.**, Christmas Day Mass at MPC, SB
- Dec. 27/28**, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
- Dec. 31, 5 p.m.**, Vigil Mass for Mary, Mother of God at AMR Chapel
- Jan. 1, 2015, 11:45 a.m.**, Mary Mother of God at Soldiers' Chapel, SB
- Jan. 3/4, 2015**, Epiphany of the Lord
- Jan. 10/11, 2015**, Baptism of the Lord



Briefs

Today

Leilehua Concert Series — Relax and enjoy Hawaiian music, beginning at 6 p.m., by Weldon Kekau’Oha at The Grill at Leilehua Golf Course. Free and open to the public. Features food and drinks for purchase. Call 655-1711.

20 / Saturday

At Ease Adventure — For \$20/per person, join Outdoor Recreation specialists, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., to visit fun locations around the island of Oahu. Explore places both on and off the beaten path, from the tops of mountains to the edge of the Pacific Ocean.

Wear comfortable clothes and closed-toed shoes. Be sure to bring a little bit of cash in case we stop at a local mom and pop store for goodies. Also, remember your camera. Call 655-0143.

Single Soldier Holiday Dinner

— Single Soldiers and geographic bachelors are invited to Tropics Recreation Center to attend this special free Holiday Feast at Tropics. Doors open at 3 p.m., dinner served at 5:30 p.m., and the night includes Texas Hold ‘em, Black Jack, Roulette and other Vegas style games, a live band and a DJ until 2 a.m. Call 655-5698.

23 / Tuesday

Quilting/Sewing — Learn how to make quilts, 5-8 p.m., SB Arts and Crafts Center; enjoy quality time with others while quilting. Call 655-4202.

24 / Wednesday

Christmas Eve Single Soldier Bingo — Join the Tropics Recreation Center staff for Christmas Eve Bingo from 4-6 p.m. Call 655-5698 or 655-5697.

26 / Friday

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet — Enjoy delicious local style food at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill and FS Mulligan’s Bar & Grill every last Friday of the month. Call SB at 655-4466 or FS at 438-1974.

28 / Sunday

NFL Sunday Ticket — Come to SB Tropics Recreation Center on Sunday for the final regular season games. Facility opens half hour before the first game starts. Patrons 18 and older welcome.

community calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

Adopt a Soldier — Become a host family for a single Soldier for a holiday season meal, or buy a meal while you are out and about, or take a moment to have a conversation over coffee. Also, sign up to be a single Soldier recipient of a holiday meal. Sign up before Dec. 20 at 655-9105 or (915) 329-7130.

Free Milk & Cookies — Pick up some free milk and cookies when you bring your family to visit Santa at his new home, the Enchanted Forest at Honolulu Hale Courtyard. This event is part of the Honolulu City Lights. Bring your family between 6:30-9:30 p.m.

20 / Saturday

Christmas Nights at the Palace — The Daughters of Hawaii is hosting its first Christmas Nights at the palace from 6-9 p.m. Visitors will be treated to many carolers, and there will also be Christmas snacks. The Queen Emma Summer Palace

ARMY SINKS NAVY, 36-0!



Photos by Mike Kim, Fort Shafter Intramural Sports Director, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Above, the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, flag football team makes history as it represents the Army in the first Army vs. Navy flag football game held at Stoneman Stadium, here, Friday night.

The Army was victorious over the Navy with a final score of 36-0.

At left, Nicholas Jones of the Army’s HHB, 3-7th FA team scores the first touchdown of the game.



Call 655-5698.

NFL Sunday Ticket Family

Brunch — Bring the family out and watch all of your favorite teams play at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill through Super Bowl Sunday to watch the games.

Doors open half hour before kickoff of first game. Fun games and prizes all morning long. Brunch will be served for \$16.95/adult and \$7.95/children. Call 655-4466.

January

2 / Friday

Soccer Entry Deadline

SB/WAAF and FS/TAMC Army battalion level men’s and women’s active duty team entries must be received by the USAG-HI Sports, Fitness & Aquatics Office, 730 Leilehua Ave, Bldg. 645, Room 2, Schofield Barracks, no later than 4 p.m., Jan. 2, 2015.

Applications may also be faxed to 655-8012 or scanned/emailed to the tournament directors.

Baby-Sitting & CPR — Register for SKIES Unlimited free baby-sitting and CPR/first aid monthly courses,

for 12-18 year olds. After class completion, students will be added to the SKIES super-sitter referral list.

Class participation requires registration by a parent/guardian with Army CYS, Parent Central Services. Register now at 656-9818 for the 4-7 p.m. sessions:

- Jan. 7 & 14, Feb. 4 & 11, baby-sitting.
- Jan 21 & 28, Feb. 18 & 25, CPR/first aid.

Baseball & Wrestling Registration

— CYS Services Youth Sports Baseball & Wrestling Program registration is open, Jan. 2-31, to keiki born from 1998-2010. Cost is \$60/per player for baseball and \$20/per player for wrestling.

First time participants and renewals must sign-up at CYS Services Parent Central Offices. Ask the clerk about the multi-child fee reduction.

•Baseball practice is from April 1-June 19; season runs from April 25-June 20.

•SB wrestling practice begins April 7; AMR wrestling practice, April 8. Call your area Youth Sports office: FS/AMR at 836-1923 or SB/WAAF/HMR at 655-6465.

the rest of the clinic is closed.

- Jan. 1, Acute Care Clinic open; the rest of the clinic is closed.
- Jan 2, the clinic is open as usual, regular hours.

Tropic Lightning Museum

— The Tropic Lightning Museum, located on Schofield Barracks building 361, will be closed for the Christmas weekend, Dec. 25-29.

Normal hours will resume Tuesday, Dec. 30. For normal hours of operation, visit www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/tlm/visit-us.html or call 655-0438.

26 / Friday

U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii — Fort DeRussy museum will be open, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Dec. 26. It’s free!

28 / Sunday

Kuhio Beach Hula Show — Weekly Sunday event opens with the traditional blowing of the conch shell at 6 p.m. at the Kuhio Beach Hula Mound, near the Duke Kahanamoku statue, beachside at Uluniu and Kalakaua Avenue in Waikiki.

Enjoy the free show with seating on the grass; beach chairs, mats, okay. Cameras are welcome.

29 / Monday

SB Blood Drive — Give the gift of healing. Blood will be collected, 8-11:30 a.m., Bldg. 686, 2nd Floor Co-

3 / Saturday

Ladies Golf Clinic — Make an appointment and a PGA professional will show you that you can play golf! The free clinic is held by appointment only, for 30 minutes. The Ladies Golf Clinic at Leilehua Golf Course is geared towards the beginning golfer. Call 655-4653.

5 / Monday

Tropics Renovation — The Tropics Recreation Center kitchen will be closed for renovation beginning Monday, Jan. 5. The Tropics Ono Snack Bar will be open with a limited menu serving beverages and snacks only.

The grand reopening of the Tropics Snack Bar is scheduled for April 2015 with upgraded food and beverage menus, new full bar and additional TV screens. Call 655-5698.

8 / Thursday

Clay Hand Building Workshop — Learn to work with clay from the experts at SB Arts and Crafts Center, 1-3 p.m., Jan. 8, 15 & 22. First class is \$25; additional classes are \$5 and includes supplies. Call 655-4202 for pre-registration.

30 / Tuesday

HPU Poetry Contest — Hawaii Pacific University has extended the deadline for its James A. Vaughan Award for Poetry. The winning poem will be featured in the university’s literary magazine, and the winner will receive \$250 cash reward.

Participants should send three poems with a 60-line limit, along with contact information. The winner will be announced in January 2015. Visit www.hpu.edu/english.

31 / Wednesday

New Year’s Eve Fireworks — Waikiki lights up with an off-shore fireworks spectacular at midnight.

New Year’s Eve Safety — Have a safe, enjoyable celebration!

worship Services

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu.)

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- HMR: Helemano Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass

- Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
- Sunday services:
 - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
 - 11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at Soldiers’ Chapel and 12 p.m., TAMC

Gospel Worship

- Sunday, noon. at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

- Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
- Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

- Friday, 7:30 p.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)

- Friday, 7 p.m. at Wheeler Annex

Protestant Worship

- Sunday Services
 - 9 a.m. at MPC
 - 9 a.m., at FD, TAMC chapel
 - 10 a.m. at HMR
 - 10:30 a.m. at AMR
 - 11:30 a.m. at WAAF (Spanish language)
 - 11 a.m. at SC (Contemporary)
- Liturgical (Lutheran/Anglican)**
- Sunday, 10 a.m. at WAAF

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aaafes.com under realtime movie listing.



Dumb and Dumber

(PG-13)
Fri., Dec. 19, 7 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 21, 2 p.m.

Big Hero 6

(PG)
Sat., Dec. 20, 2 p.m.



Beyond the Lights

(PG-13)
Sat., Dec. 20, 6 p.m.

Closed Christmas, Thurs., Dec. 25

Horrible Bosses 2

(R)
Fri., Dec. 26, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

Calendar abbreviations

- 8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
- 25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
- ACS: Army Community Service
- AFAP: Army Family Action Plan
- AFTB: Army Family Team Building
- AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation

- ASYMCA: Armed Services YMCA
- BCT: Brigade Combat Team
- BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
- Co.: Company
- CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services
- EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program
- FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and

- Recreation
- FRG: Family Readiness Group
- FS: Fort Shafter
- HMR: Helemano Military Reservation
- IPC: Island Palm Communities
- PFC: Physical Fitness Center
- SB: Schofield Barracks

- SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
- USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
- USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield

Post exchanges pump up fuel savings w/card

ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE
Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — With the busy, and expensive, holiday shopping season upon us, Army & Air Force Exchange Service gas stations worldwide are helping to make sure that filling up doesn’t empty the wallet.



File photo

The Military Star card will offer 10-cents off per gallon.

From Dec. 19-21, the Military Star card is doubling the everyday 5-cents per gallon gas discount cardholders receive when fueling up at an Exchange gas station.

On those three days, drivers paying for gas with their Military Star card will receive 10-cents off per gallon.

“As we head into the final holiday shopping weekend, we are providing an added incentive for last-minute shoppers to come on base/post to see what the Hawaii Exchange has in store,” said the Exchange’s Area Manager Patrick Riordan. “The savings at the pump are just the beginning of the value authorized shoppers will find at the Hawaii Exchange.”



Learn More

To find out more about the Exchange, visit www.shopmyexchange.com or follow at <https://twitter.com/ExchangePA>.



Col. Rebekah Sarsfield, the 18th Medical Command (Deployment Support) Public Health Nurse, teaches students in the Radford High School Healthcare Services Career Pathway about communicable diseases, medical ethical dilemmas and what it takes to be a nurse, Dec. 8.

18th MEDCOM shares nursing at Radford

Story and photo by
SGT. 1ST CLASS NICOLE HOWELL
18th Medical Command (Deployment Support)
Public Affairs

HONOLULU — As part of the Army School Partnership Program, the 18th Medical Command (Deployment Support) public health nurse, Col. Rebekah Sarsfield, taught Radford High School’s Healthcare Services students about communicable diseases and prevention, medical ethical dilemmas and what it takes to be both a civilian and an Army nurse, Dec. 8.

Radford High School and 18th MEDCOM (DS) have a standing relationship through the Army School Partnership Program where the unit has the opportunity to give back to the community by providing medical field experts the ability to interact with the students through classroom style teaching.

“Any one of these students could potentially be our future replacement as we seasoned medical professionals fade away,” said Sarsfield. “Knowledge is power, and the more they know about the (medical) profession, the better they can make informed decisions about their future.”

Sarsfield, a nurse for 33 years, explained in the first class how different communicable diseases are transmitted and how each person can minimize the spread of viruses and bacteria.

“The best way to prevent the spread of viruses is through good hand hygiene practices and to use standard precautions with other peo-

ple,” said Sarsfield. “Standard precautions are basically making the assumption that everyone could potentially have a communicable disease when it comes to potential exposure to blood or other bodily fluids, secretions or excretions.

“One standard precaution,” she added, “is to treat everyone as if they might have a communicable disease.”

Generating interaction
During the questions and answers segment, students asked pertinent questions about the transmission of communicable diseases.

“Since antibiotics are not used on viruses, how do you treat them?” said a health care student in the first class.

“For viral illnesses, antibiotics will not work, so we can only treat the symptoms and the course of the illness,” Sarsfield said.

She went on to discuss different types of transmission of these diseases, such as droplet, air and indirect and direct contact.

“Some viruses are heavy and only travel in the air about 3 feet and then drop,” Sarsfield explained. “Those are droplets. Airborne transmission lingers in the air longer like measles. Then, some diseases like Hepatitis A can be passed through contaminated food.”

Getting personal
Sarsfield also discussed her personal experiences as a nurse, what it takes to become one

and the school requirements for both military and civilian nursing.

For a civilian nurse, you can do a two- or four-year degree, said Sarsfield. To become an active duty Army nurse, you have to have at least a bachelor’s degree.

Sarsfield began her career as a civilian nurse for 13 years before joining the military ranks.

“The Army was the best decision I have ever made,” Sarsfield said. “I love the variety of experiences and most of all taking care of our service members.”

That prompted student questions about nursing in the military.

“What are some of the military nursing specialties?” asked a Radford High School Navy JROTC student.

“They are critical care, acute care, surgical, obstetrics and gynecology (OB), psychiatry, public health and many more,” Sarsfield replied.

Learning options
Sarsfield urged students to learn that there are options ahead for them, both civilian and military, and being a nurse is a noble and rewarding field, especially Army nursing.
“It was a privilege to share information that will hopefully have a positive influence on decisions they’ll be making to shape their future,” said Sarsfield. “Nursing is not for the faint at heart, but for those that choose to serve and do it honorably, it’s priceless!”

Garrison community recognized

Dept. of Army lauds leadership, excellence

JACK WIERS
Pau Hana Editor

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — The U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii community and many of its programs and community members enjoyed an award-winning year in 2014.

Years spent towards building a winner

In recent years, the garrison has welcomed the dedication of new barracks, the building of a record number of new family homes and child development centers and also the ground-breaking for an extensive new building and renovation of Hale Kula Elementary School, costing \$33 million.

The result of years of aggressive leadership was formally recognized in April with the 2014 Army Community of Excellence Gold Medal award as the top installation in the Army.

“The award reflects how USAG-HI consistently excelled at providing base operations, training support and quality of life services to Soldiers, families and civilians,” wrote Lt. Gen. David Halverson, assistant chief of staff of the Army for Installation Management and commanding general of Installation Management Command.

“Your concepts, visionary and supportive leadership, core values, learning and innovation, and organizational performance combined with your ability to focus on results and creating value plus customer-driven excellence have put you a pace ahead of other installations,” wrote Halverson.

The award also noted several best practices for USAG-HI accomplishments, including institutionalizing a cost-savings culture resulting in initiatives that saved \$700,000 in fiscal year 2013 and \$61.7 million since fiscal year 2010.

Also noted was the garrison’s reduced regulated waste generation by partnering with Hawaii-based Army units to replace traditional petroleum motor pool maintenance products with bio-based lubricants and spill absorbent.

Established in 1985 and sponsored by the Chief of Staff of the Army, ACOE is an annual Armywide assessment of all aspects of installation management. The program is designed to improve installation operations and readiness through business transformation processes.

Winning became contagious

Award-winning performances were recognized throughout the local Army Hawaii community.

Excellence in serving Soldiers and their families is the hallmark of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation services.

In 2014, FMWR Director Michael Amarosa was recognized with the IMCOM-Pacific Region Stalwart Award for his management, leadership and supervision of FMWR programs and the workforce. FMWR was also recognized with the Installation Management Academy Exemplary Workforce Development Award.

Island Palm Communities, along with garrison’s Directorate of Emergency Services, was singled-out for its efforts in developing the National Night Out safety program.

Five Army Hawaii-based Soldiers in September



Photo by Jack Wiers, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Capt. Candace Clark, S1 (administration), Warrior Transition Battalion, enjoys a "selfie" with Pro Bowler Dexter McCluster of the Kansas City Chiefs at the Tropics. NFL players joined members of the Wounded Warriors Bn. and Purple Heart recipients from the 25th Infantry Division.

helped lead the All Army Softball program to a record third straight All Services Softball title in September at Fort Sills, Oklahoma.

Even the Hawaii Army Weekly joined the lengthy award party while being presented the Maj. Gen.Keith L. Ware award as the top outside the continental U.S. newspaper.

Social issues tackled

2014 was also a year when serious social issues, including sexual assault and domestic violence, were readdressed with new high-profile initiatives.

Garrison Commander Col. Richard A. Fromm signed a procla-



Photo courtesy of BOSS

A participant in the Hawaii BOSS program goes skydiving. The Hawaii BOSS program supports single Soldiers by offering opportunities for recreation and leisure, volunteering and improving quality of life.



Photo courtesy of Island Palm Communities

Island Palm Communities has opened many new homes through the installation.

See YIR B-6



Kayla Overton, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Military history enthusiasts converge on the Tropic Lightning Museum for Living History Day, Oct. 11. Members of the Civil War Round Table of Hawaii participate in a Civil War re-enactment.



Photo courtesy Tripler Army Medical Center

HONOLULU — Tripler Army Medical Center staff show an example of a “centering” activity. The new approach to pregnancy, from first visit to birth, helps put expectant mothers in charge of their pregnancy and aids women in having a more active role.



Marie Barberea, Fort Sill Public Affairs

FORT SILL, Oklahoma — Capt. Chad Agustin, a Warrior Transition chief from Pacific Regional Medical Command and catcher for the Men’s All-Army Slow-Pitch Softball Team, hits a line-drive during the championship game against the Marine Corps.



Sarah Pacheco, Honolulu Star-Advertiser

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A Soldier with the 74th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 303rd EOD Battalion, 8th Military Police Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, helps Cub Scouts guide an EOD robot during the annual Ka’ala District Cub Scout Day Camp at Area X, here, June 13.



Photos by Jack Wiers, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Empty Place at the Table display remembers lives affected by domestic violence and was on display at various locations during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. (Photo has been altered from its original form; background elements have been removed.)





Sarah Pacheco, Honolulu Star-Advertiser

EWA BEACH — Mike Marble (left), site coordinator with the Military Adaptive Sports Program, gives an on-land surfing tutorial to Sgt. Emily Robinson (left), Warrior Transistion Battalion, Pacific Regional Medical Command, before hitting the waves, July 5.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Chris Hubenthal, Defense Media Activity

WAIKIKI — Warrior Transition Battalion Honu canoe team members test their paddling stamina and skills on waters, here, as part of the Duke’s Oceanfest in August. The Honu team placed second among the 12 participating teams in the wounded warrior division at the sixth annual event.

YIR: Community enjoys activities

CONTINUED FROM B-4

mation, declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) and emphasized the Army theme for 2015: Relationships should be safe, respectful and positive.

“Domestic violence is a real problem,” said Fromm. “We need to get the word out and stop this. If you witness an incident of domestic violence ... do the right thing.”



Sarah Pacheco, Honolulu Star-Advertiser

EWA BEACH — Four Soldiers from the Warrior Transition Battalion, Pacific Regional Medical Command, receive the surfing session of a lifetime when Third Eye Blind front man Stephan Jenkins and drummer Brad Hargreaves join them for a day surfing the sets at White Plains Beach, here, July 5.



Staff Sgt. Richard Sherba, 8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — A crowd, estimated between 40,000–45,000, enjoys the concert at the Fourth of July Spectacular, here. Military Police from throughout the 728th MP Battalion, 8th MP Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, were on-site to provide security and ensure all event-goers had a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July.



Courtesy photo by Hale Kula Elementary School

Hale Kula Elementary School's Student Council and PE teachers hold canned goods and other nonperishable food items collected during U.S. Army-Hawaii's annual Turkey Trot in November.

Hale Kula gives community svc.

RONDA GILLAM AND LUANNE WILKENDORF
Hale Kula Elementary School

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — What is community service? Community service is individuals or groups volunteering their time or resources to help other members of the community.

This volunteering is not something you normally hear about as being part of the normal routine of an elementary school. However, at Hale Kula Elementary School, here, it happens frequently.

Taking action

Over the past 10 years, coaches Jerry Bevacqua, Ted Enoki, and the Student Council have used the annual Turkey Trot Run and the Jingle Bell Run to instill a sense of community service and personal responsibility for their community, and an understanding of how each student can help.

“When I first started teaching PE, community service and the teaching of empathy were an integral part of our PE Program,” said Bevacqua. “We collect donations, and we do a grade level run with music.”

Each run has a community service component and different focus. The Turkey Trot run is done in November and is a canned food drive for the local Hawaii Food Bank.

This year, the goal was to collect 1,000 cans of food, and Hale Kula students stepped up to help those in need. The run collected over 1,460 cans and boxes of food for presentation to the Food Bank.

“I like doing these projects because we get to help people who may not have much to celebrate during the holidays,” said Trinity Phillips, a 4th grade Student Council representative.

The Jingle Bell run focuses on collecting funds for various charities that range from the Red Cross to this year’s focus, The Wounded Warrior’s Project. This year’s goal was to raise \$900, and students raised \$948.

Students choose projects

The charities are chosen by fourth and fifth grade Student Council members as each year Student Council members brainstorm a list of charities that are near and dear to their hearts. They discuss the reasons the members would like to donate to that charity. Finally, the group votes and chooses the charity that will receive the funds.

Dec. 12, students, teachers and families participated in the Jingle Bell Run, running, walking and dancing to holiday music.

Students at Hale Kula greatly value community service and helping those in need.

“I think that helping others, such as community service, is doing good for others,” said fifth grader Taylor Quenga. “Some people say that when you do something good, karma comes back to you.”

Hale Kula students will continue to participate in community service projects. Their annual American Heart Association “Jump Rope for Heart” and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s “Pennies for Patients” is in the spring.

(Note: Gillam and Wilkendorf are student council advisors at Hale Kula.)



THE MEAT & POTATOES OF LIFE

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Review at www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com.